

January 2024



## HHS Finalizes Rule to Advance Health IT Interoperability and Algorithm

### Transparency

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) through the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology (ONC) finalized its *Health Data, Technology, and Interoperability: Certification Program Updates, Algorithm Transparency, and Information Sharing (HTI-1) rule*. This follows the release of the HTI-1 proposed rule in April 2023. Click [here](#) to continue reading.

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## *The Basics of Direct Secure Messaging*

### What is Direct Secure Messaging (DSM)?

- Direct is a technical standard for exchanging health information between health care entities in a trusted network.
- It is secure, easy-to-use, inexpensive, and approved for use by nationally recognized experts and organizations.
- Direct functions like regular e-mail with additional security measures to ensure that messages are only accessible to the intended recipient, per the protection regulations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

### Examples of documents that can be sent via DSM include:

- Continuity of Care Documents (CCDs)
- Referral Documents
- Test Results
- Patient Encounter Notes
- Medications and Allergies

### What is a HISP?

- A Health Information Service Provider, or HISP, is an accredited network service operator that enables nationwide clinical data exchange using DSM. NDHIN is considered a HISP and offers DSM to all participants at no additional cost with unlimited users.

### What is DirectTrust?

- HISPs and Direct are regulated and monitored by the DirectTrust.org
- The mission of DirectTrust is to support health information exchange that is secure, interoperable, and usable by diverse end-users. To learn more about DirectTrust, click [here](#).

- For some basic steps to help implement DSM best practices in your facility, click [here](#).

NDHIN would be happy to help set up your organization with our DSM services! Check out our page of [FAQs](#), or to get started, please click [here](#)

If you have additional questions regarding NDHIN's DSM service, please reach out to Nicole Lauinger by email [lauingernicole@nd.gov](mailto:lauingernicole@nd.gov)



### *New HHS Proposal Regarding Information Blocking.*

A new proposed rule released by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) details HHS' first steps for holding health care providers accountable for information blocking under the 21st Century Cures Act (Cures Act). To learn more, click [here](#).

### *Welcome to NDHIN: New Participant Spotlight*

NDHIN Would Like to Welcome Our Newest Participants!



## ABLE Inc.

### McIntosh District Health Unit

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#### *Reminders!*

##### Help Us Stay Up to Date.



When there are role changes within your organization, please contact NDHIN to ensure we have the most update information listed for your organization. This ensures we are able to communicate effectively for audits, invoices and concerns regarding your organization.

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#### *Need assistance?..... Password Reset?*

If you are having 'Issues' with use of the NDHIN Clinical Portal or other services, please contact the NDHIN Help Desk.

The NDHIN Help Desk is available 24/7 to assist you with password resets, technical issues, and other service questions.

##### ***NDHIN Help Desk***

Call (844)335-6253 ext. 1 or email [NDHINSupport@koblegroup.com](mailto:NDHINSupport@koblegroup.com)

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#### Reach Out To US!

##### **Health IT Provider Relations and Privacy Coordinator**

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